

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The following Figure is included with the present Response on one replacement sheet:
5E.

REMARKS

Applicants received a Notice Of Drawing Inconsistency With Specification stating Figure 5E is not contained with the drawings filed Jan. 16, 2002.

In fact, in a "Decision Granting Petition," dated Jul. 17, 2002, the USPTO decided that Figure 5E had been included with the papers filed Jan. 16, 2002, but that Figure 5E was subsequently misplaced by the USPTO.

The Decision Granting Petition states that the replacement sheet for Figure 5E, filed by Applicants on May 23, 2002 along with a Petition, is to be included with the other drawing sheets.

A copy of the Decision Granting Petition is attached.

It now appears, based upon the fact that Applicants have received the present Notice Of Drawing Inconsistency With Specification, the replacement sheet for Figure 5E was not included with the other drawing sheets.

Therefore, Applicants have included, with the present Response, a second replacement sheet for Figure 5E.

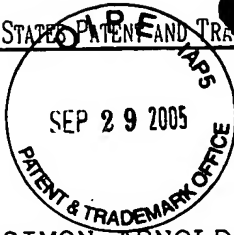
The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 502584 referencing docket number 06816.0110.

Respectfully submitted,



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Paper No. 4

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COPY MAILED**JUL 17 2002****OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of
Kukula et al.
Application No. 10/046,220
Filed: January 16, 2002
Attorney Docket No.
06816.0036.NPUS.01

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: DECISION GRANTING PETITION
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This is a decision on the petition filed May 23, 2002, requesting that Figure 5E described in the specification be accorded a filing date of January 16, 2002, as part of the original disclosure.

On January 16, 2002, applicants filed the above-identified application. On February 28, 2002, the Office of Initial Patent Examination mailed a "Notice to File Missing Parts of Nonprovisional Application" (Notice), stating that the application had been accorded a filing date of January 16, 2002, and requiring applicants to submit an executed oath or declaration and a \$130.00 surcharge for its late filing. Additionally, the Notice advised applicants that Figure 5E described in the specification appeared to have been omitted.

In response, May 23, 2002, applicants filed the present petition, the petition fee, and one (1) sheet of drawings consisting of Figure 5E. The petition was accompanied by a copy of applicants' postcard receipt acknowledging receipt of "50 sheets of drawings (Figures 1-3, 4A-4K, 5A-5E, 6A-6J, 7A-7B, 8A-8O, 9, 10, 11, and 12)" on January 16, 2002. Applicants requested that the application, including Figure 5E, be accorded a filing date of January 16, 2002, and the petition fee be refunded.

Upon review of the record, Figure 5E, deposited on January 16, 2002, has not been located among the application papers. However, the evidence is convincing that the application papers deposited on January 16, 2002, included Figure 5E, which was subsequently misplaced in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Therefore, the application, including Figure 5E, was complete on filing and entitled to a filing date of January 16, 2002.

Accordingly, the petition is granted.

The Notice's requirement for the omitted item was sent in error and is hereby vacated. Accordingly, the petition fee is unnecessary and will be credited to Deposit Account No. 08-3038.



Application No. 10/046,220

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The application file is being returned to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for further processing with a filing date of January 16, 2002, using Figures 1-3, 4A-4K, 5A-5D, 6A-6J, 7A-7B, 8A-8O, 9, 10, 11, and 12 submitted on January 16, 2002, and Figure 5E submitted on May 23, 2002. Additionally, the Office records should indicate that 50 sheets of drawings were present on filing.

Any inquiries related to this decision should be directed to Petitions Attorney Christina Tartera Donnell at (703) 306-5589.

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**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMALLY CONSTRAINING
RANDOM SIMULATION**

J.H. Kukula, et al.

06816.0036

19/50

Figure 5E

```
1      /* do all forward comps, and all addi fwd comps brought up by doing
2      the existing fwd comps, on fwd comp list, where list is sorted such
3      that fwd comps, earliest in time, are done first */
4      for each i_term on fwd_comps
5      {
6          new_i_term = fwd_shrink_2pt1(i_term);
7          if empty(new_i_term) then return(no_path_exists);
8
9          if new_i_term < i_term then
10         {
11             replace term in approx_path.state_sets, corresponding
12             to i_term, with new_i_term;
13
14             new_j_terms = revs_triggered?(new_i_term);
15
16             put new_j_terms on rev_comps immediately, and re-
17             sort rev_comps such that the j_term's continue to be
18             taken in latest time first order;
19
20             new_fwd_comps = fwds_triggered?(new_i_term);
21
22             put new_fwd_comps on fwd_comps immediately, and
23             re-sort fwd_comps such that its terms continue to be
24             taken in earliest time first order;
25         } /* END if new_i_term < i_term */
26     } /* END for each i_term on fwd_comps */
27
28     } /* END while */
29
30 } /* END bidirectional_approx */
```